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22 March 1966

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EST)

Political Developments in South Vietnam: Buddhist leaders may be planning to renew their protest activities soon, although public reflections of political unrest remained minor yesterday.]

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[A Buddhist communique issued in Saigon expressed "extreme surprise" over Premier Ky's recent public remarks which implied that the Buddhists were "scheming to betray and sell out the nation."]

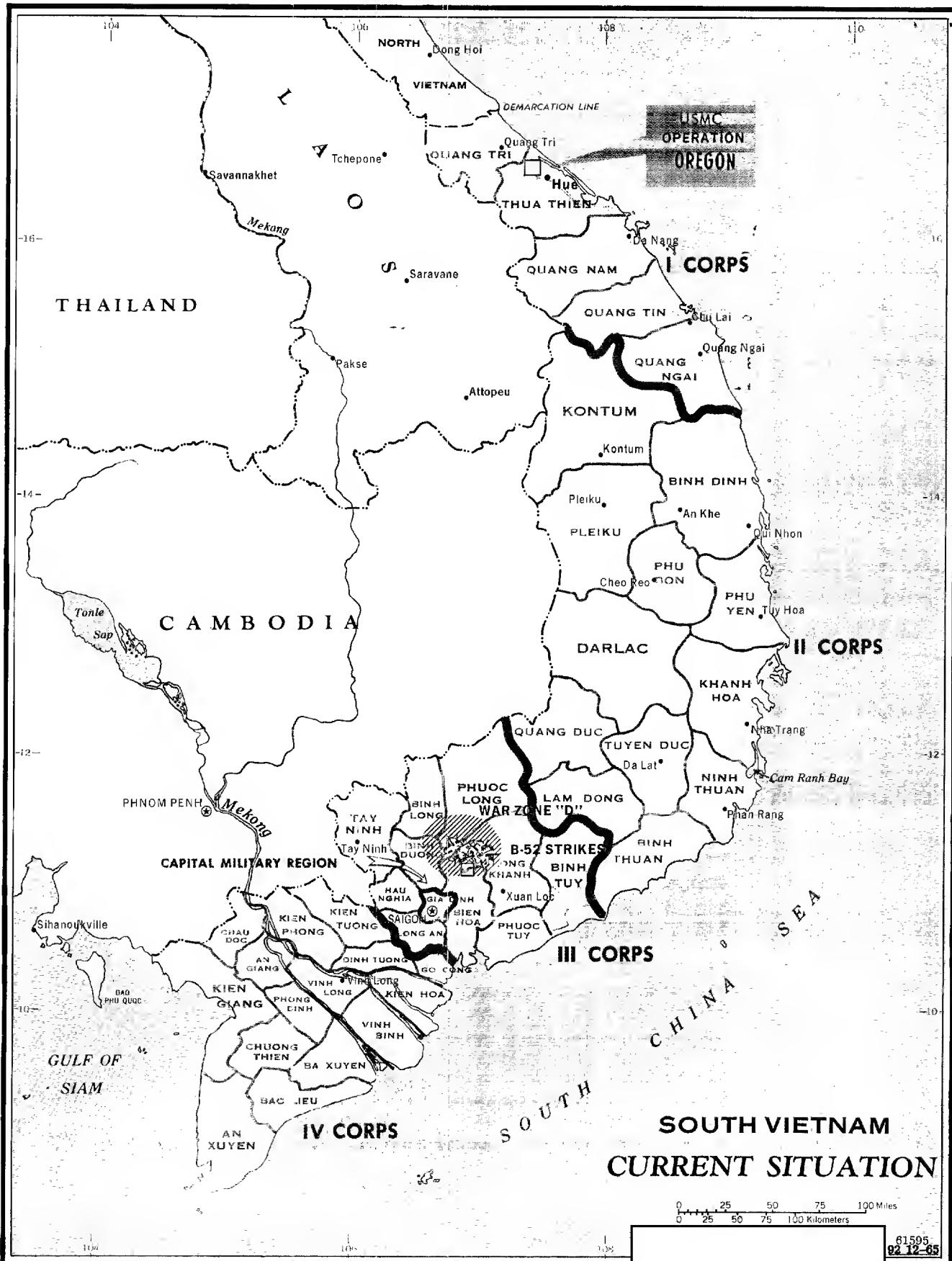
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[Deputy Premier Co yesterday directed that General Thi be ordered back to Saigon immediately. General Co reportedly fears renewed trouble in central Vietnam as a result of Tri Quang's presence there. General Thi was last reported in Hue, and there is no information available concerning his response to yesterday's order.]

The Military Situation in South Vietnam: A Viet Cong force estimated to number two platoons attacked Cam Ly airport outside Da Lat in Tuyen Duc Province early today. A Saigon spokesman has said government casualties were slight, while two Viet Cong were killed, two were captured, and three others--presumably collaborators--were seized.

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22 Mar 66 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN Map

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Early Monday, an estimated two companies of Viet Cong attacked elements of a South Vietnamese battalion in Binh Tuy Province. With tactical air support, government defenders killed 67 of the attackers while sustaining losses of 12 killed, 23 wounded, and two missing. A South Vietnamese ranger battalion reinforced government troops in the area, but no further contact has been reported.

Elsewhere yesterday, 21 B-52 Stratofortresses bombed two enemy targets in the Viet Cong "War Zone D" stronghold some 30 miles northeast of Saigon. There were no plans for ground forces to exploit either of the target areas.

On 20 March, US Marines conducting Operation OREGON in Thua Thien Province battled three companies of Viet Cong for about seven hours. US casualties were ten killed and 42 wounded; Viet Cong losses totaled 48 killed.

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NOTES

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Colombia: Results of the congressional elections, although coming in very slowly, seem to confirm predictions of a close race. Early returns give the National Transformation Front (FTN) about 55 percent of the popular vote and show the National Popular Alliance (ANP) to be the strongest force in the opposition. If these trends continue, the FTN will probably retain control of the executive branch of the government following the presidential election in May, but the ANP will be able to block future legislation.

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The Special Assistant for Notional Security Affairs

The Scientific Adviser to the President

The Director of the Budget

The Department of State

The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Under Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of Defense

The Secretary of Defense

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Internotional Security Affairs)

The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff

Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy

Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

U.S. Rep., Military Committee and Standing Group, NATO

Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

Commander in Chief, Atlantic

The Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

The Director, The Joint Staff

The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

The Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

The Department of Justice

The Attorney General

The Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Director

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The Administrator

The Atomic Energy Commission

The Chairman

The Notional Security Agency

The Director

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